



City of Chicago  
Harold Washington, Mayor

**Department of Health**

Lonnie C. Edwards, M.D., M.P.A.  
Commissioner

Bernard J. Turnock, M.D., M.P.H.  
Deputy Commissioner

Steven Welch  
Acting Deputy Commissioner

50 West Washington Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60602  
(312) 744-4323

US EPA RECORDS CENTER REGION 5



485591

SOIL LEAD LEVELS IN PLAYGROUNDS

PLANNING MEETING

Purpose:

A meeting to plan for a statewide study of soil lead levels in playgrounds, schoolyards, and parks. Some analyses have already been performed for Chicago parks and playgrounds and these have demonstrated alarmingly high lead concentrations.

Our purpose is to determine comparable levels in suburban and downstate Illinois, as well as to perform additional studies within the City of Chicago. This information will be useful in assessing the need for further statewide efforts to prevent the contamination of soil and dust, such as through proposed legislation to ban the sale of leaded gasoline throughout the state.

Proposed Participants:

Individuals and organizations who have expressed an interest in such information, as well as others who would be interested in planning and implementing such a statewide study.

These would include the following:

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Tony Rutter

U.S. EPA Region V

230 South Dearborn Street

Chicago, Illinois 60604

ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Gareth Johnson

Lead Program Coordinator

Division of Family Health

Illinois Department of Public Health

535 W. Jefferson

Springfield, Illinois 62761

**RECEIVED**  
MAR 04 1985

**Program  
Support Section**



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CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Bernard J. Turnock, M.D., M.P.H.

Deputy Commissioner

Chicago Department of Health

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Room 221

Chicago, Illinois 60602

Hyman Orbach, Ph.D.

Director of Laboratories

Chicago Department of Health

50 West Washington

LL-155

Chicago, Illinois 60602

Lynn A Green, M.D., M.P.H.

Director of Community Health

Chicago Department of Health

50 W. Washington

Chicago, Illinois 60602

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Sarah LaBelle/Joe Stetter

Center For Transportation Research

Argonne National Laboratory

Building 362 2B

9700 South Cass Avenue

Argonne, Illinois 60439

COALITION TO BAN LEADED GASOLINE

Marilyn Katz

Coordinator

55 East Monroe

Suite 4005

Chicago, Illinois 60603

ILLINOIS PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

Jeff Todd

Executive Director

428 W. Jefferson

Springfield, Illinois 62702

HEALTH & MEDICINE POLICY RESEARCH GROUP

Patricia Terrell

220 South State Street

Chicago, Illinois 60604

Other agencies, individuals, or organizations interested in participating. (Please feel free to contact and invite anyone else you feel would contribute to this effort.)



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Agenda:

1. Development of Protocol for Sampling
2. Development of Protocol For Laboratory Testing
3. Development of Plans For Obtaining Samples Throughout The State
4. Development of Plan For Laboratory Analyses of Specimens Obtained.
5. Development of Plan For Review, Analysis, and Utilization Of Study Results  
(Please bring materials and references that you feel will be useful in this effort.)

Date and Time:

Room 221 (Dr. Turnock's Office) Chicago Department of Health, 50 West Washington, Chicago, Illinois 60602, March 14, at 1:00 P.M. Please RSVP to Rosemary Renda, in Dr. Turnock's Office, at 744-4323



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A G E N D A

SOIL LEAD LEVELS IN PLAYGROUNDS

PLANNING MEETING

March 14, 1985

1:00 P.M.

Richard J. Daley Center  
Rm. 221

1. PURPOSE: To determine soil lead levels present in representative play areas throughout the State of Illinois. This information is necessary to adequately assess potential health hazards that may be prevented or abated by appropriate measures.
2. SAMPLING PROTOCOL:
  - A. Existing Information
    - Soil levels
    - Play areas
  - B. Number Of Sites
    - Downstate Illinois
    - Suburban Chicago Area
    - City of Chicago
  - C. Collection Techniques
    - Locations
    - Depths
    - Amounts
    - Transport of Specimens
    - Identifying Information Required
  - D. Responsibilities And Timeframes
3. LABORATORY TESTING PROTOCOL:
  - A. Current Techniques
    - Illinois EPA
    - Argonne Laboratory
    - Illinois Department of Public Health
    - Chicago Department of Health
  - B. Capabilities Of Participants To Test Specimens
  - C. Responsibilities And Timeframes



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**4. Review And Analysis Of Findings**

A. Data To Be Collected

B. Review and Summary of Findings

C. Responsibilities and Timeframes

**5. Additional Issues Raised By Participants**

**6. Summary And Adjournment**

I met with representatives from the Dept of  
Public Health, Chicago Health Dept, Argentine National  
Laboratory, Jerry Colbrook and Paul Moss from EHEC  
attending the meeting with me. Christa Crooke  
of USEPA ~~also~~ also attended the meeting.

The goal of the group is doing a food  
study varied widely and were not resolved at  
the meeting. This group is planning to do  
a state wide study involving thousands of

150 sample locations <sup>concentrate</sup> throughout the state. The  
Argentine people will ~~do~~ this sampling &  
vehicle emissions and this seems to be

the primary focus. The EHC people provided  
advice <sup>about</sup> ~~where and how to~~ ~~sample~~ and some of the  
advice given was utilized. The study

lacks a real purpose or focal ~~point~~ point  
; however, and the procedures used in  
setting up the study and taking the samples  
seem questionable. No USEPA resources  
were committed to this effort. Since it  
involves vehicle emissions it seems  
inappropriate for Superfund involvement.  
Also in view of the questionable nature  
of the study I recommend that we  
have no further involvement in it  
even from an advisory capacity.

<sup>sample</sup> Harriet B suggested that the lead  
results from the Chicago Parks should be verified  
by Dr. Zornow's <sup>Chicago Health Dept.</sup> said that she did not want  
to do any more studies in the same area. Thus  
there is no pressure from the city for additional  
studies other than the part planned under the State

Copy of original  
attached

with survey which will include some  
Chicago Parks among the sampling sites.